

State of Washington

Water Measurement Device Installation and Operation Requirements

Pipe flow measuring devices

Below is a summary of the major requirements for pipe flow meters. This sheet is intended to assist water users in understanding the most important portions of the rule, but does not include all the requirements from the rule. For additional detail and information on requirements, see "Requirements for Measuring and Reporting Water Use"; WAC 173-173.

- At any flow rate measured by the meter, the meter itself shall be rated by the manufacturer to register between 95% and 105% of the water actually passing through the meter.
- At any flow rate measured by the measuring system; i.e., meter plus any secondary equipment such as data recorders; the system shall register between 90% and 110% of the water actually passing through the system.
- Measuring devices and facilities must register and be calibrated for the full range of discharge for which they are to be used.
- The meter shall have a visual totalizer. The totalizer shall contain sufficient recording digits to ensure that "roll over" to zero does not occur before the next recording period.
- The meter shall be installed, inspected, maintained and calibrated in accordance with manufacturer specifications.
- The meter shall not be installed in a manner that creates an uneven velocity profile. Straight sections of pipe before and after the meter, straightening vanes or other flow conditioning devices shall be used to provide even flow through the meter as necessary.
- No withdrawal or diversion of water shall be made unless the measuring devices and facilities are in proper operating condition, except when a measuring device or facility is being repaired and a substitute measuring device or other method to measure the diversion or withdrawal is used.
- There shall be no turnouts or diversions between the source of water and the measuring devices and facilities, except for faucets or other small outlets that have a *de minimis* effect on the diversion or withdrawal.